Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/OFP/FPD:FMCELDOWNEY:ML APPROVED BY EB/ORF/OFP - JOHN FERCH ARA/ECA - TSHUGART IO/AGR - PBYRNES USDA/ERS-MKRIESBERG

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TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 121101

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNWFC, EAGR

SUBJECT: WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (WFC) THIRD SESSION

REF: STATE 117059

ROME FOR FODAG

1. (BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED) THE THIRD SESSION OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED TO MEET IN MANILA JUNE 20-24, 1977. THIS BODY, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR BROAD OVERVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY ISSUES. WHILE BRAZIL IS NOT AT PRESENT A MEMBER OF THE WFC, BRAZIL PLAYS A ROLE IN THE PROCEEDINGS BY VIRTUE OF ITS STATUS AS A MAJOR DEVELOPING COUNTRY PRODUCER AND EXPORTER OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND ITS PRESENT POSITION AS LEADER OF THE G-77 IN ROME. THE UNITED STATES UNDERCONFIDENTIAL

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STANDS THAT BRAZIL WILL BE REPRESENTATED BY AN OBSERVER IN MANILA. FOR THESE REASONS, THE UNITED STATES IS PROVIDING FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BRAZIL TEXT OF THE LETTER FROM AGRICULTURE SECRETARY BOB BERGLAND TO MINISTERS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE COUNCIL. THE UNITED STATES WOULD WELCOME ANY REACTIONS THE GOVERNMENT OF BRAZIL MIGHT WISH TO PROVIDE. (END UNCLASSIFIED)

2. (BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL) EMBASSY SHOULD DRAW FROM ABOVE IN PRESENTING TEXT OF BERGLAND LETTER CONTAINED REFTEL TO APPROPRIATE BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES. EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE THAT ROLE OF BRAZILIAN REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO AND G-77 CHAIRMAN BERNARD BRITO IN ROME PREPARATORY MEETING WAS IN GENERAL NOT CONSTRUCTIVE. BRITO LED G-77 INTO TABLING SEVEN OF ITS OWN OMNIBUS DRAFT RESOLUTIONS STRESSING FAULTS OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND HELPED TO BLOCK EFFORTS BY US AND OTHERS TO PERSUADE MEETING TO PRESENT MINISTERIAL SESSION WITH A CONCISE DRAFT STATEMENT AND AGENDA FOCUSED ON THE PROBLEM OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION. BRITO PLANS TO ATTEND MANILA SESSION. USG DOUBTS CONFRONTATIONAL STANCE WAS TAKEN BY BRITO PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS FROM BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT AND BELIEVES -- UNLESS EMBASSY PERCEIVES OBJECTION -- THAT GOB AUTHORITIES SHOULD BE INFORMED IN AS DISCREET A MANNER AS POSSIBLE THE DAMAGE THAT CONTINUA-TION OF SUCH A STANCE COULD CAUSE FOR INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE ON FOOD POLICY ISSUES. (END CONFIDENTIAL). VANCE

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